

THE TOKEN HUNTER

April 1998, Vol. 18 No. 4
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(N.U.T.S.)

DEDICATED TO THE COLLECTING, RECORDING, AND PRESERVING
OF UTAH'S HISTORICAL MEDALS, TOKENS, COINS, AND BOTTLES

OFFICERS	NEXT MEETING	PROGRAM
PRESIDENT: Eric Hubbard 882-0207 VICE PRESIDENT: Fred Herring 576-9535 TREAS/SEC: Renae Fausett 561-5487 EDITOR: Jeff Cornelison 523-3871 Kevin Anderson 943-5425 WAGONMASTERS: Dave Kyte 568-0908 Don Bake 882-4485 Jeral Smith 571-0609 MEDALS CHAIRMAN: John James 466-6098	Thursday, April 23, 1998 7:15 p.m.	Bourse Night Bring your Goodies!

PRIZESPRIZES***PRIZES***PRIZES***PRIZES***PRIZES***

Promptness Prize --1943-s Walking Liberty Half
Grand Prize --1998 1/10 oz. Gold Eagle

1882 Morgan Silver Dollar
1890-s Morgan Silver Dollar
Buffalo Nickel Likeness Silver Round

Joseph A Berger
Jax Billiard Rooms
Dave Hewlett
Julie's
Kenilworth Merc. Co
Mohrland Mercantile Company
H & A
A.R. Larson
NAT Loader Berry Check
B.Z.B. Inn
Clagett & Wood
Lyric Bar & Cafe
Deluxe Billiards

G/F .05 In Trade
G/F .05 In Trade
G/F .05 In Trade
G/F .05 In Trade
G/F .10 In Trade
G/F 1 Stick of Powder
G/F .05 In Trade
G/F .05 In Trade

G/F .10 In Trade
G/F .12 1/2 Cigar
G/F .6 1/4 In Trade
G/F 10 In Trade

Bingham UT
Cedar City UT
Corrine, UT
Grantsville UT
Kenilworth, UT
Mohrland, UT
Ogden, UT
Pleasant Green, UT
Pleasant Grove, UT
Salt Lake City, UT
Salt Lake City, UT
Salt Lake City, UT
Tooele, UT

The Presidents Message

By Eric Hubbard

April 1998

Another Great Month

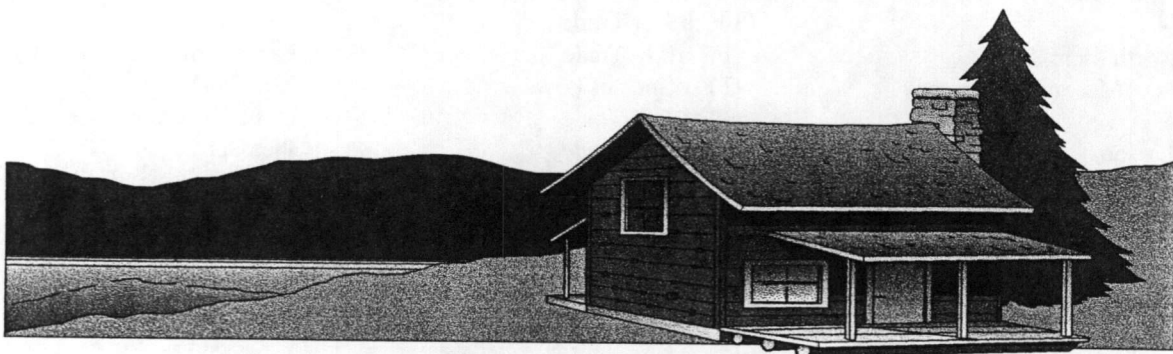
Through the grapevine, I've heard of some excellent finds again. I've also made a couple of my own. By the time this comes out I should be doing some Missouri hunting. I grew up around a couple civil war battlefields and hope to be able to track down some of the property owners while I'm there. (Look out Bruce and Dave!)

In case anyone missed the meeting. We had some great finds entered last month. Of course all of the first place entries belonged to the same two or three people as usual. I hope some day I can be retired, grow a goatee, and do nothing but metal detect. That does seem to be the secret though. "Spend lots of time". I personally don't know of anything exceptional being found by anyone sitting on the couch and watching T.V. You got to get out to find it...

Speaking of finds. This meeting will be "BOURSE" night. Soooooooo... bring in all your items you'd like to sell or trade with with other club members. Last year I made a few bucks and got rid of some of the clutter. I've got tons of stuff again that I'd hate to throw away but I don't really want to collect.

A special thanks again to Ralph Gold for donating the books and GO JAZZ!! Tickets last month. It really helped out the raffle, so we should have even better finds this month if they're out there to buy. Watch for some of your favorite tokens and coins.

See you all Thursday!
Eric



Wagon masters Report

By: Don Bake

Congratulations to the find of the month winners for the month of March. There were some really nice finds. Whether you found your first Merc dime or a \$20 Gold piece continue searching because it's there to be found. Happy hunting.

Our upcoming club hunt is for May 16-17, at Mosida, rumored to be the home of "The Lost Army Payroll". Mosida is located just a hop, skip, and a jump down scenic I-15. We have chosen to hold hunts closer to home in hopes of enticing a few more members out.

When the Utah War ended in 1858, it was agreed that General Albert S. Johnston's army would be allowed to build a camp no closer than 40 miles to Salt Lake City. It was built in Cedar Valley and its payroll added considerably to the state's prosperity. One of its first payrolls never helped anyone though, because it was stolen and buried near the site of Mosida.

Old newspaper accounts tell how a lone bandit stole the gold payroll and fled south from Salt Lake City. Soon, an army posse was after him. He would probably have gotten away, though, if his horse hadn't fallen and broken a leg near the south end of Utah Lake. The posse found the crippled horse soon after the bandit left on foot, carrying the heavy saddlebags filled with gold.

The outlaw tried to elude his pursuers by hiding in the head high sagebrush, but at dawn's light he was seen. In a quick gunfight he was killed. He had none of the gold with him, nor was any trace of it ever found. He must have hidden it close to where he died, perhaps in a badger hole, or in the lake. The amount was never announced, but General Johnston had 2,500 troops, so the payroll would have had to have been a large one.

What are you waiting for? Let's go find it.

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Find Of The Month

US Coin	Chris Benson	1885 Seated Quarter
Foreign Coin	Bruce Dugger	1915 German ½ Mark
Token	Dave Kyte	Robertson & Johnson Saloon, Cal.
Jewelery	Jerry Couch	10 K Gold Ring
Artifact	Bruce Dugger	Lodge Badge (Tonapah, Nev)
Button	Bruce Dugger	Infantry Officers 1855-1861
Non-Metal	Bruce Dugger	Mini Beer Mug
Oldest US Coin	Dave Kyte	1842 Seated Dime
Oldest US Cent	Dave Kyte	1889 Indian Head
	Bruce Dugger	1889 Indian Head
People's Choice Bottle	Cliff Fausett	Poison Bottle

Point Totals

Bruce Dugger (Not Competing)	60
Dave Kyte	44
Cliff Fausett	35
Jeff Cornelison	30
Chris Benson	29
Jeral Smith	26
Eric Hubbard	24
Don Bake	22
Jerry Couch	21
Rob Kirkman	14
Tim Rose	9
Johnny Gallegos	6

Congratulations to Everyone!

MOSIDA Utah County

Mosida, pronounced Mo-see-da or Mo-zee-da, was established in 1910 and like several towns built during this era derived its name from the most prominent founders of the place. In this case the first two letters of three founders' names - Morris, Simmons and Davis. The 800 acres on which the town was built and surrounding farm lands are located on the western edge of Utah Lake twelve miles north of Elberta and were acquired by two Curtis brothers in 1907 for the purpose of establishing a rich farming area. The Mosida Fruitlands Company was formed which built a pumphouse on the lake edge to bring irrigation water up to the large tracts of land where many orchards were planned. Initially there was an office, cook shack, a large boardinghouse and a huge storage barn.

In 1911 numerous men from surrounding towns were hired to clear, level, plow the new land and then plant seedlings - mostly apples and peaches. A large galvanized pipe line was laid out from the pumphouse to a second pumphouse a quarter mile west of the water edge to raise the water up to the next level. The land was then plotted off in parcels and offered for sale. Investors and prospective home buyers, mostly from the Midwest and other parts of Utah, were taken on a grand tour and given the spiel of the virtues of the land, the wondrous scenery, the delightful climate for fruit raising and the decent price of land and water. This undoubtedly rings a bell with anyone in recent times who has been hustled into buying a "fabulous mountain retreat" off in some corner of the desert. Actually, these early day promoters were probably more fair than many of their modern-day counterparts.

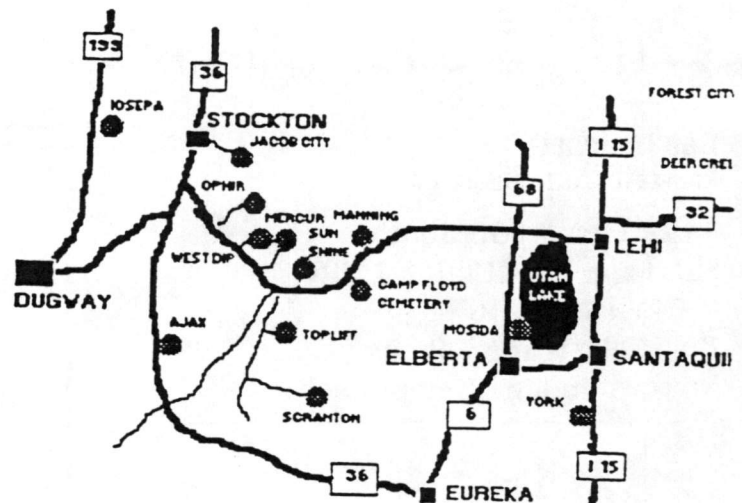
Most of the laborers lived in dozens of tent houses or at the boarding house which housed up to 250 men. Company officers lived in small cabins. There were even two imported French cooks who made meals which probably no other boarding house operations could match.

A big barge for bringing supplies and passengers from Provo was generally anchored by the shore and several times the townsfolk would hold dances on it.

By 1912, 50,000 fruit trees had been planted close by and 50,000 bushels of grain had been harvested and the large barn was bulging with wheat, oats and barley. A plush \$15,000 resort hotel was built on the shore, which provided excellent accommodations for tourists and prospective investors. This was the landmark of the town - there was nothing like it anywhere west of Utah Lake. A \$3000 schoolhouse was constructed in town, as well as a post office and a store and some more houses. By 1913 most of the landowners had actually moved out onto their farms and were attempting production: population was around 400.

Unforeseen events began cropping up, as they do in these situations. The land the trees were planted on was found to be too salty and all the trees died just as they were getting started. It was good for grain and alfalfa, however, so most people turned those directions. Then it was found that the pumping operations were becoming more expensive than promised and the lake level fluctuated so much from season to season and year to year that by 1915 the water was too low to pump. These circumstances, of course, soured everyone so that by 1917 most people had left, the company was in receivership and the town was dying. In 1920 there were still 60 people left, but "Mosida-by-the-lake" as the promotional literature extolled was on the way out.

Today, paved State Highway 68 runs north from the Elberta crossroads, through acres and acres of rich alfalfa land, the northern part once belonging to the Mosida lands, for 11.5 miles. Then a dirt track heads east for 0.7 mile to the dry, barren edge of Utah Lake. Here are found the large foundations of the Mosida Hotel, and schoolhouse and others. Right on the water's edge sit the concrete walls of the old pumphouse partially extending out into the lake. There are no orchards, trees or even lifeless skeletons of trees. Nothing but parched dead plains, and worn sides of the trench where the water conduit was laid.



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